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Washington MERRY-GO-ROUND

By Drew Pearson
WASHINGTON, Feb. 26

Grim Briefing

EXACTLY what happened inside the White House when a group of Congressional leaders were briefed on the "grim" international situation has had the world guessing. Here are the nonsecurity highlights:

1—Intelligence chief Allen Dulles, brother of the Secretary of State, warned that the Communist Party might try to squeeze us out of Berlin this Spring.

2—The Kremlin is likely to hit the West in several places at the same time, and one of these, according to Allen Dulles, is French Indo-China.

General Bradley, however, claimed the Chinese didn't have a large army on the Indo-

Chinese border, though he said guerillas and supplies did seem to be pouring into Indo-China. As a countermove Dulles urged that American supplies be stepped up to aid the French.

3—A Communist drive on Korea, General Bradley reported, was not to be discounted.

4—Secretary of State Dulles reported one favorable piece of news; Turkey, Yugoslavia and Greece will sign a mutual security pact which will strengthen the West in the Mediterranean and bring pressure against two satellite neighbors—Albania and Bulgaria.

Dulles was also pleased about a prospective Mediterranean Defense Pact which would include Egypt, England and the

United States, as well as Italy, Greece and other Mediterranean countries.

His brother Allen, however, painted a pessimistic picture of Soviet propaganda in that same area. He said the Kremlin had stepped up its efforts to woo the Arabs and that hundreds of so-called Russian diplomats were working night and day to persuade the Arab governments to trade with Russia and to ditch any idea of joining the Western pact against communism.

This Russian sweet talk, plus the Kremlin's break with Israel, the Congressmen were told, is having its effect.

5—Budget director Joseph Dodge reported on the headaches of financing the world program. He declared flatly that there is little chance of balancing the 1954 budget or of reducing military expenditures during the coming 12 months.

It was this pessimistic report on finances and the difficulty of balancing the budget that made GOP leaders emerge from the White House to announce that the world was grim. Actually it's no grimmer than it has been for some time.

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